

County News and Views

SEPTEMBER 2001

From the Office of Fifth District Supervisor Jerry Eaves

Information on County Roads

San Bernardino County is the largest county in the continental United States. Encompassing an area of over 20,000 square miles, it covers more territory than the states of Delaware, New Jersey, Rhode Island and Massachusetts combined. The county has a population of about 2,000,000 persons and is one of the fastest growing urban counties in the State of California during the past decade.

Under the Department of Public Works, the Transportation Division is responsible for providing safe and drivable public roadways in the unincorporated areas of the county. This transportation function is further divided into various areas of responsibility including Operations, Traffic, Transportation Program Management, Design and Contracts.

The major transportation functions of the department are the operation, maintenance, and improvement of the county maintained road system which currently includes 2,825,000 miles of road, independent of federal and state maintained roads, non-maintained, special district maintained and private roads in the

unincorporated areas of the county. Maintenance District 5 provides service in the San Bernardino and East Valley areas.

Funding is received each year from the State Fuel Tax of 18 cents per gallon. The County's share is allocated on the number of registered vehicles. This translates to just over \$60.00 annually for each vehicle registered in the county. The county actively pursues special grant funds that are made available on a competitive basis from various programs. The competition is fierce and the dollar amounts are limited and variable. No property taxes are currently used for maintenance or improvement of the County Maintained Road System.

The Transportation Department frequently receives questions about trees in the road easement. The county doesn't trim these trees, as it is the responsibility of the property owner. It is also the property owner's responsibility to maintain and repair sidewalks. Occasionally grant funds are available for the county to install sidewalk curb and gutter as part of a widening project or as a safety issue.

I hope this information is helpful in providing you with an overview of the county road system.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Free Dump Day at County Landfills
October 27, 8 am to 5 pm
County Landfill Information 1-800-722-8004

Bloomington residents can go to Kessler Park. Muscoy residents can go to The PAL Center at 2450 Blake Street.

This dump day is for residential waste only.

COUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER

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